

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 13-15 are all the claims pending in the application (claims 11 and 12 having been deleted in the Article 34 Amendment filed in the international stage). The claims have been amended to resolve any improper multiple dependent claim issue.

Entry of the above amendment is respectfully requested.

Preliminary Matters

(1) On the Office Action Summary, the Examiner indicates that claims 1-15 are pending in the application and are rejected. As indicated above, claims 11 and 12 were deleted in the Article 34 Amendment filed in the international stage (an English translation of the Article 34 Amendment was filed with the present application on March 21, 2002). Thus, only claims 1-10 and 13-15 are presently pending in this application.

(2) On review of the Office Action, Applicants note that the Examiner has attached an initialed copy of the PTO/SB/08 A & B form filed on March 21, 2002, but she has not attached an initialed copy of the PTO/SB/08 A & B form filed on June 21, 2002. Since the June 21, 2002 form included two additional references, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider these references and return an initialed form to us with the next communication from the PTO. For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of the PTO/SB/08 A & B form filed on June 21, 2002 is attached hereto.

Anticipation Rejection

On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by EP00961159, JP 2001011171, and JP 2002-542216.

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the reason that none of the cited references are prior art, as discussed below.

EP00961159 (EP 1245607 A1) is the European counterpart of the present application, since it is the European national stage of PCT/JP00/06470, which is the international application upon which the present national stage application is based. Thus, the EP reference is not prior art to the present invention.

JP 2002-542216 is the Derwent Accession No. for JP 2002-146007 A, published May 22, 2002. Per 35 U.S.C. §363 and MPEP §1893.03(b), the filing date of the present national stage application is the September 21, 2000 filing date of the international application. Since JP 2002-146007 A was published after the filing date of the present application (and even after the August 2, 2001 date that the Article 34 Amendment was filed), JP 2002-146007 A (and thus Derwent Accession No. JP 2002-542216) is not prior art to the present invention.

JP 2001011171 was published on January 16, 2001. Since the present claims are entitled to the September 21, 2000 international filing date, JP 2001011171 is not prior art to the present invention.

Further, it is noted that this rejection is made under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), but the cited references are all foreign references, so 35 U.S.C. §102(e) (which requires that the prior art reference be based on an application for patent by another filed in the U.S.) cannot be used.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 10/088,590

Thus, Applicants submit that the present invention is not anticipated by the cited art.

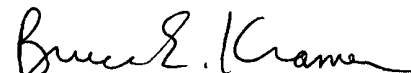
Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPENDIX
VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

13. (Amended) A method for crystallizing a low molecular weight aromatic polycarbonate described in [any one of Claims] Claim 8 [to 12] characterized in that 0.1 to 25 parts by weight of powdery granules of a crystallized polycarbonate is further added to 100 parts by weight of the uncrystallized low molecular weight aromatic polycarbonate.

14. (Twice Amended) A method for producing a polycarbonate resin characterized in that a crystallized product obtained by crystallizing the low molecular weight aromatic polycarbonate using [any] the method described in either Claim 1[, Claims 4 to 8, and Claims 10 and 13] or Claim 8 is heated at a temperature lower than the melting point of the crystallized product under reduced pressure or in an inert gas flow to convert the polycarbonate into a high polymerized stated.